

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
**East Hartford Fire Station and Apparatus Maintenance Facility**  
**East Hartford, Connecticut**  
**FEMA Grant EMW-2009-FC-03656**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to provide assistance in accordance with FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants to the Town of East Hartford to construct a new fire station and apparatus maintenance facility in order to enhance the town's response capability and protect the community from fire and fire-related hazards.

In accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for FEMA, subpart B, Agency Implementing Procedures, Part 10.9, a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was been prepared pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations to implement NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations parts 1500-1508), and FEMA's regulations implementing NEPA (44 CFR Part 10). FEMA is required to consider potential environmental impacts before funding or approving actions and projects. The purpose of the EA was to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project and to determine whether FEMA needs to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or can issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

A legal notice indicating the availability of the Draft EA was published in the Hartford Courant on May 3, 2010. The Draft EA was made available to the public at the following locations:

- Town of East Hartford Public Library – 840 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut.
- East Hartford Town Hall – Engineering Department – 740 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108.

The Draft EA was also made available for viewing and download from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region1.shtm>.

The Draft EA was available for review for a period of 30 days. The public was invited to provide written comments during the 30 day review period directly to Jack Sullivan, FEMA Environmental Officer, 99 High Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. No comments were received and therefore the Draft EA has become final.

**FINDINGS**

FEMA has adopted the EA and made the following determinations from evaluation of the information contained in the EA.

The proposed project will not result in significant adverse impacts to existing land use, water resources (surface water, ground water, waters of the United States,

wetlands, and floodplains), air quality, noise, biological resources (vegetation, fish and wildlife, state and federally-listed threatened and endangered species and critical habitats), safety, hazardous materials and waste, cultural resources, traffic and transportation, or result in disproportionately high or adverse effects on minority or low-income populations. The proposed action is in compliance with all relevant federal, state and local laws, including Executive Orders (EO) 11988 (Floodplain Management), EO 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and EO 12898 (Environmental Justice).

## **CONDITIONS**

The following conditions must be met as part of this project. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize Federal funds:

1. The construction project will comply with the provisions of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewater Associated with Construction Activities.
2. The completed project will incorporate stormwater management practices within the facility landscaping to prevent erosion and sedimentation.
3. Construction activities will be limited to normal business hours to mitigate the noise impacts to individuals in the area.
4. Best Management Practices will be implemented to minimize any impacts to water quality during project construction.
5. Potential impacts to air quality in the area during construction will be mitigated by the use of water spray as a dust suppressant.
6. The project design will incorporate features to minimize post-construction noise impacts to residents.
7. The project design will provide compensatory storage for the proposed fill activities within the 100-year flood zone. The first floor elevation of the new fire station will be placed 2.7 feet above the 500-year flood zone elevation.
8. If hazardous materials are unexpectedly encountered in the project area during construction activities, appropriate response measures will be initiated in accordance with applicable federal, state and local regulations.
9. Based upon the completed Phase IB Archeological Survey, it is not expected that any cultural or historical remains will be encountered during the construction activity. However, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), if historic or cultural resources are encountered during surface disturbance activities, all construction will cease immediately until their

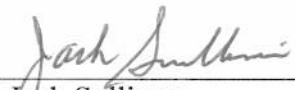
cultural significance and ultimate disposition is determined in consultation between FEMA and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).

10. It is not expected that endangered or threatened species will be encountered during the construction activities. However, if endangered or threatened species are encountered during the project construction, all work will immediately cease and consultation with the appropriate state and federal authorities will occur.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Based on the findings of the EA, coordination and consultation with the appropriate agencies, comments from the public and adherence to the project conditions set forth in this FONSI, FEMA has determined that the proposed project qualifies as a major federal action that will not significantly affect the quality of the natural and human environment, nor does it have the potential for cumulative effects. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared (44 CFR Part 10.9) and the proposed project as described in the attached EA may proceed.

### **APPROVAL**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Sullivan  
FEMA Environmental Officer  
FEMA Region I  
Boston, Massachusetts

  
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Date